

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-51 were originally presented for consideration in this application. Claims 16 and 32 have been canceled. Accordingly, claims 1-15, 17-31 and 33-51 are currently pending in this application.

The examiner's indication that claims 16-20, 32-39 and 41 contain allowable subject matter, is noted with appreciation.

The following rejections and objections were set forth in the Office Action:

1. The specification is objected to for lack of antecedent basis for subject matter recited in claim 41;
2. Claims 1-9, 11-15, 21-27, 29, 40-46 and 48-51 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,580,751 to Gardner et al.;
3. Claims 10, 28, 30, 31 and 47 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Gardner et al.; and
4. Claims 16-20, 32-39 and 41 are objected to for depending from a rejected base claim, but are otherwise indicated as being allowable.

Regarding the objection to the specification, please note that the specification has been amended above to include in the detailed description portion of the specification the subject matter recited in claim 41 as originally filed. Of course, this subject matter was in the specification at the time it was filed, since it was in claim 41 as originally filed, but due to the above amendment, this subject matter is now also in the detailed

description. Therefore, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the objection to the specification.

Regarding the anticipation rejections of independent claims 1 and 23, please note that these claims have been amended above. Claim 1 now incorporates the limitations of claim 16, which was indicated as containing allowable subject matter in the Office Action. Similarly, claim 23 has been amended above to incorporate the limitations of claim 32, which was indicated as containing allowable subject matter in the Office Action. Thus, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections of claims 1 and 23, and of the claims dependent therefrom.

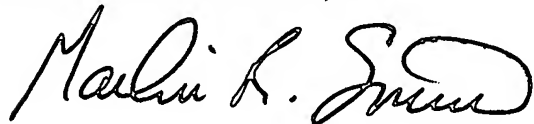
Amendments have also been made to various of the claims dependent from claims 1 and 23, so that they conform to the amended claims 1 and 23.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all of the claims pending in this application are now seen to be in a condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance of claims 1-15, 17-31 and 33-51 is therefore earnestly solicited.

The examiner is hereby requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 516-0030 if such would expedite the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

KONNEKER & SMITH, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marlin R. Smith", with a stylized, cursive script.

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